



St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church

eNews

August 4, 2022

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3228 SW Sunset Blvd, Portland, OR 97239

Office Hours: (9 am - 3 pm, M - TH)

Thoughts from Pastor Sarah

Dear Kindred in Christ,

A few weeks ago I suggested that the first three Sundays in August were all going to be quite special and so encouraged you to prioritize attendance (if it is safe and wise for you to do so). I forgot to reassert that this past Sunday, a heap of technical challenges (our sincere apologies for a sub-optimal zoom week and several weeks of Facebook issues) and a sweltering sanctuary (thank God the heat wave has ended) clouded my thinking. So on this cooler day let me remind you what lies ahead.

This Sunday, in addition to our regular monthly communion celebration (if you're joining us on-line be sure to have bread and cup ready!) we will be blessed to ordain and install Darwin Força to the office of ruling elder, and to install Ryan Patterson, Laura Planck, Roberta Schlechter to new terms as deacons, and Connie Blumthal and Becky Schiefelbein to new terms as elders. I promise to keep my sermon short (God willing! It's our last week with 1 Peter.) And I know you'll want to be there to show your support for these committed servant leaders.

In the Presbyterian Church we have a shared leadership model. Congregations elect, ordain, and install lay elders who work together to make decisions to advance the mission and ministry of the congregation. As your pastor I moderate this group of leaders, but I am NOT your primary decision maker. At all levels of our national church structure ordained elders, both teaching elders (pastors) and ruling elders make decisions together. Deacons work together to facilitate ministries of care and compassion. Your deacons visit the homebound, facilitate meals for those recovering from surgery or other crises, support those seeking recovery from addiction, and respond to emergency requests from those outside our congregation.

When Darwin makes her ordination vows on Sunday, and the other officers renew their ordination vows, they are making the same commitments I made when I was ordained to the ministry of word and sacrament 20 years ago. I have given thanks many times for my partners in ministry at St. A's. I know that for many years you had multiple pastors on staff and many of you think I must be quite lonely or burdened as a solo pastor, but then as now pastors are accompanied in ministry by the whole congregation, and especially by your elected and installed officers. This is always how it works in Presbyterian churches.

On the 14th we will begin a new summer series on the Book of Ruth and we will be blessed by the musical gifts of Lasana Kanneh, see below, and on August 21st we will bless the memorial bench for Pastor Emeritus Charlie Brown right after worship, and will have members of the Brown family in worship with us.

If you are in town and healthy, I hope you'll join us at 9am for special summer worship experiences. If you're out of town or unhealthy or just needing to be extra careful or not able to get to Hillsdale by 9am, please join us on-line. We're working to clean up our tech issues.

One more special note-- tomorrow, Friday, August 5th, we will have our first IN PERSON coffee chat in quite some time. My parents are in town and I know that some of you want a chance to visit with them. We'll gather at Well and Good Coffee in Tigard between 10 and 12 on Friday. There are many outdoor tables there and good indoor options too. I hope many of you will drop by! There will be no Zoom coffee chat this week.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Sarah

Mask-wearing is now STRONGLY ENCOURAGED, not required during worship. The Session voted unanimously to require vaccination for those attending in-person worship and other St. Andrew's events, with possibility of medical exemption. The COVID task force decided that we will implement this policy via the honor system. We trust the congregation to abide by the vaccination policy and will not require proof.

SEE THE ST. ANDREW'S WEBSITE FOR OUR CURRENT COVID POLICY

SCRIPTURE

August 7

1 Peter 5:1-14; Matthew 20:25-28

August 14

Ruth 1:1-22; Matthew 5:3-9

New News & Announcements

SUMMER HOURS AT ST. ANDREW'S

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:00AM

*OFFICE HOURS: TUES - THURS, 9:00-4:00

*BOOKKEEPING HOURS: MON - WEDS, 9:00-1:00

SPECIAL MUSIC PERFORMANCE - AUGUST 14

On Sunday, August 14, we will be joined in worship by Lasana Kanneh, an immigrant from Liberia, who performs under the name IJenNeh-- for a mix of African and reggae music. He has asked many times to come to St. A's and finally we are making it happen. He will lead our congregational singing for the day and will offer 2-3 pieces of his own as part of our hour of worship. Please join us in person or on-line to enjoy the blessing of this special music.

CHARLIE BROWN MEMORIAL DEDICATION SERVICE

On Sunday, August 21, we will be honoring the memory of Pastor Emeritus, Charlie Brown, with the blessing of a new outdoor bench dedicated to him. Please join us for this hour of worship along with Edda and family.

ASSISTANCE NEEDED

St. A's member Donna Lee needs help in the next day or two moving some heavy indoor and outdoor items around her house. If you consider yourself strong/fit and have some time, please reach out to her. If you need her phone number contact Pastor Sarah.

LOVE PLAY? JOIN US IN THE NURSERY! *UPDATE*

Only four more volunteers are needed for the nursery. Sign up online for one of the five remaining Sundays of summer to help at 8:45 with the nursery, where Aubrey Schiefelbein shepherds our little ones while the Lighthouse teachers take a summer break. Thank you to all who have volunteered!

CONFIRMATION IN 2023

Pastor Sarah is working on planning for a Confirmation retreat and experience in 2023. If you have a youngest in your life who is ready for confirmation, please let her know. She will likely collaborate with some other colleagues in the presbytery so we have a bigger retreat experience. At present a January retreat is being planned with several mentor

check-ins over the next six months. If you'd like to be a confirmation mentor, or learn more about this, please let her know.

Learning & Fellowship Opportunities

Members of all classes and groups are encouraged to continue reading and studying at home. Please contact your group leader if you do not find a list or link below.

COMMUNITY BUILDING EDUCATIONAL SERIES

This fall we would like to offer a series of workshops on "Community Builders: Creating Harmony and Collaboration Among Diverse Folk", by Eileen Meija. Eileen is an expert educator whose focus is on creating learning experiences and communities centered on the cultivation of a high degree of psychological safety, which recent research shows is a key factor in growing community. This mutually beneficial series would contribute to her continued work with the Stanford Applied Compassion program where she is developing examples and methodology for how to apply this knowledge in real-world communities.

Workshops would be held on eight consecutive Saturdays in October and November, beginning on October 1 and ending on November 19. The specific timing and location within our building are yet to be determined. We need at least 12 participants in order to make this happen, and other area faith communities will be invited to attend as well. This will be a significant time investment, but highly worth it, especially for those who participated in the screening of "Purple: America We Need to Talk" and expressed a desire for more concrete learning experiences around connecting across difference.

This series is geared for all those age 18 and over, and welcomes a diversity of learning and processing styles. Please contact Pastor Sarah or the office if you would like to participate.

ANTI-RACISM DISCUSSION GROUP

The Anti-racism discussion group will resume meeting in September to begin conversation around the book, 'Caste: The Origins of our Discontents', by Isabel Wilkerson. This book, "examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives today are still defined by a hierarchy of human divisions." Discussions will now be held on the second Thursday of each month, beginning September 8, at 6:00pm on Zoom. Regulars and new-comers alike are invited to join us, and are encouraged to begin reading the book over the summer. Contact Pastor Sarah for more information.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Several St. Andrew's men meet on first and third Wednesdays at 7am, usually in Pastor Tom's living room (with masks and distance). New participants are welcome. For more information, please contact Larry Patterson or the church office. Virtual participation is available upon request.

ENNEAGRAM STUDY GROUP

On the fourth Saturday of every month we gather on Zoom at 1:00 pm to discuss the Enneagram-- a system for understanding human personality and relationships. Our August discussion will focus on Type 7-- The Enthusiast. I encourage those interested in joining us to find an hour to watch a video from last year's Enneagram and Coffee summit. Participants are also encouraged to review other literature or web information about Type 7. Make note of what you observe/learn and join us on Saturday, August 27 at 1:00pm on Zoom to discuss what you learned and are left wondering after viewing the panel and/or reading. All are welcome to join us on this journey of deeper self-understanding.

Service Opportunities & Mission Updates

We know that there are many requests for basic needs assistance right now. Please contact the Church Office Admin or Mission Team Leader if you have questions or need help with drop-off or deliveries. We hope that you find one or more opportunities that call to you, and please know that any amount of support is appreciated and makes a big difference!

WELCOME KITS FOR THE MULTNOMAH SAFE REST VILLAGE *UPDATE*

Last weekend 25 'Welcome Bags' were assembled by youth groups at St. Luke Lutheran Church and delivered to the Multnomah Safe Rest Village for the participants who currently reside there. These bags were made possible by a grant from the Oregon Synod ELCA, \$250 from the St. Andrew's Neighborhood Ministries funds, and bags donated by the Garden Home Trader Joes. Each bag included essential household items suggested by the SRV staff, as well as soft and cozy fleece pillows made by the St. Andrew's quilters from their fabric scraps. Thank you to all of those who made this happen!

SOU'WESTERS UPDATE

The Sou'westers Mariners group continues to come together in mission and fellowship. Laura Erickson writes,

Ahoy, Mateys, What a sizzling summer we're having! I had hoped that by now we would be able to get together safely but with the rise of highly-contagious variants to Covid that does not appear to be the course we should take. So, at this point, I believe that waiting until September will be the best "harbor" for us. It's good to know that everyone is still in there, contributing to West Women and continuing our ministry to help others.

Take care and enjoy!

Skipper Laura

PS I just spoke with Chuck, who is still recovering from surgery but feeling better.

We give thanks for their continued dedication and service, including a monthly \$100 donation to the West Women's & Children's Shelter, and that Chuck Stilson is recovering well from his surgery.

ZIPLOC MINISTRY

SATURDAY, AUG. 6, 11:45 - 12:15pm: ZIPLOC/DONATION DROP-OFF

SATURDAY, AUG. 27, 10:00 - 12:00pm: ZIPLOC FILLING

During stressed times, our monthly donations make a huge difference to our partners. You can sign up to bake a casserole for West Women's and Children's Shelter, or provide other needed items listed below. Bring your donations to FIRST SATURDAY DONATION DROP-OFF, a great time of fellowship at St. Andrew's! Here are the most requested items:

- NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE FOOD PANTRY: feminine hygiene products (especially sanitary pads), diapers (especially larger sizes), canned fruits, canned tuna, soups and chili
- WEST WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S SHELTER: toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant cleaner
- HYGIENE 4 ALL: NEW underwear, socks, leggings, T-shirts of all sizes, men's pants, gently used men's walking shoes
- ZIPLOCK MINISTRY: socks, pop-top tuna, pop-top chili or ravioli, water (10-12 oz), Gatorade (10-12 oz), travel toothbrushes/toothpaste

Our masked volunteers will greet you curbside in front of the church to receive your donations. We will also have lots of filled Ziplocs available for pickup and delivery. If you would like to support this ministry financially please send your donation marked "Ziploc Ministry" to the church. Contact Darwin with questions. Thanks for your generosity to St. Andrew's ministries!

HELP RESETTLE AN AFGHAN FAMILY

Extend hospitality to strangers. Romans 12:13b

I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

Matthew 25:35

We've been supporting Amir and Khatera through donations to the Afghan Refugee Fund and the efforts of the Hillsdale Afghan Refugee Team (HART, many members of which are also members of St. Andrews). Amir, who grew up working in his family's welding business, has just started working for Fought & Co., which does major metal projects from its Tigard location. Thanks to Carolyn Gazeley for spotting the job opening! Khatera, who had recently suffered a severe bicycle

accident when we first met her, is now walking well and has received needed dental care, thanks to the efforts of many taking her to appointments. She is now looking forward to getting back to work; she was a banker in Afghanistan. Both are now taking English classes at PCC. Thank you for your time, money, and prayers helping them on their resettlement journey.

Continued donations to help this family can be made to the Afghan Refugee Fund, via St. Andrew's, and should include your name and address, and whether you're a member of St. Andrew's. Questions? Ask Amy Houchen or Rebecca Nasson.

ST. ANDREW'S QUILTERS

The St. Andrew's quilters meet on the second and third Wednesdays of each month at 9:30. Their beautiful creations are donated to organizations that provide warmth to those in need. All are welcome to join them! Contact Gail Planck for more information.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

Food Pantry donations: See their website for an up-to-date list of their most needed donation items.

Volunteer Needs: M-F 9am-4pm

- Food Pantry: In-Pantry Support: Prep food boxes, stock shelves, and help out in the food pantry
- Food Delivery: Deliver 1-3 food boxes in a personal vehicle to clients
- Bulk Food Assistance Prep: Active shift that consists of prepping food boxes, loading a truck, driving in a personal vehicle to the apartment building, and helping unload the truck

Fill out an application online to get started, or see their website for a full list of opportunities.

HYGIENE4ALL DONATIONS

H4A is always in need of donations of clean clothes, gently used or newly purchased, or money for the purchase of clean clothes (particularly fresh underwear). H4A is also in need of fresh, small (travel-sized) hygiene items (hotel shampoo and conditioner, for example). Please do not donate partially used items. Here are the most needed clothing items: new underwear (must be new), socks, basic T-shirts of all sizes, leggings, pants (especially men's sizes 30 to 34), gently used men's walking shoes (most requested sizes 10 to 12), stretchy dresses. If you would like to lead a donation drive for H4A or work on one of their other needed projects, contact Marilyn. If you'd like to read more about H4A check out their website. Money donations can also be made directly to H4A.

Virtual Gatherings & Events

Sunday, August 7 & 14

9:00am Worship, Zoom & Facebook
(also in person)

Friday, August 12

10:00am Virtual Coffee Chat, Zoom
password if needed-coffee

*AUGUST 5th in person at Well and Good Coffee,
7357 SW Beveland St. Suite 100
Tigard, OR 97223*

Reminders & Ongoing News

WATERERS NEEDED

Our new drainage planter will need regular watering to make it through the summer. Just a few minutes with the hose will do the trick. Please contact Amy Houchen or Steve Ihrig if you'd like to help. Many hands make light work!

COVID VACCINE AND BOOSTER RECOMMENDATIONS

The CDC now recommends COVID-19 vaccines for everyone 6 months and older and boosters for everyone 5 years and older, if eligible. Use their COVID-19 booster tool to learn if and when your child or teen can get boosters to stay up to

date with their COVID-19 vaccines. Vaccines and boosters can be found through your provider, or at local pharmacies using the Get Vaccinated Oregon (GVO) locator map. Pop-up sites have also been established by the Oregon Health Authority and individual counties. See their website for a list of high volume vaccination locations by city. Most of these are for walk-ins only, so be prepared for varying wait times.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE FOOD PANTRY TOURS

The Neighborhood House Food Pantry is moving! Their new location on Barbur Blvd will let them expand on their food pantry and senior programs with larger receiving, production, and storage capacities, a larger shopping area, and easier public access for both recipients and volunteers. They are offering free tours of this new space all summer long, which will also include information on their capital campaign to make this project a success. See their website for more information, or go to their Sign-Up Genius to schedule your tour.

FREE COVID TEST KITS BY MAIL, AND AT ST. ANDREW'S

A third round of free, at-home Covid test kits are now available to order online. This time you will receive eight boxes instead of four. If you have already ordered and received these kits previously this year you are eligible to do so again. Visit the same website as before to place your order.

Additionally, St. Andrew's has received four cartons of Covid test kits from Multnomah County. They will mostly be distributed through our Ziploc ministry, but if you or someone in your community are in need and have not yet received your free kits we can make some of our supply available to you. Contact the office if you have any questions or requests.

NEW MEMBERS

Are you interested in becoming a member of St. Andrew's? Let Pastor Sarah know today! And keep your eyes posted for the next Inquirers' Class.

RIDES TO CHURCH

We are grateful St. Andrew's is now open for Sunday worship services and are anxious to reunite with friends, fellow members, and all who wish to be part of this. To help make this happen, some of our Deacons are starting a program to give rides to church to people who need them. If you would be interested in receiving this service, or know someone else who would, please let us know so we can get you on our list. If you would be interested in being a driver, please let us know that too. With enough volunteers people may only be needed once a month. Contact the office, Merrie Backer, or Larry Kelly to sign up, or if you have any questions.

SOLAR PANELS - THANK YOU!

Thanks to your generosity, we have all the donations and pledges we asked for! The only financial piece remaining is finding someone who can use the tax credits to shelter rental income. (The church, which doesn't pay taxes, can't use the credits.) The solar firm we're working with is searching, but if you know a good candidate, let us know, Amy Houchen or Steve Cook.

Member Database Access is available anytime. Contact the office to get set up.

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of St. Andrew's through your online donations and checks sent by mail.

Office: 503-246-4276

Office hours 9:00am - 4:00pm, Tuesday – Thursday

Bookkeeper hours: 9:00am - 1:00pm, Monday - Wednesday

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sanderson-Doughty, Pastor and Head of Staff

Don Feely, Director of Music Ministry

Katy Rustvold, Office Administrator/Neighborhood Ministries Coordinator

Krissy Wilds, Bookkeeper (hours – Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, 9:00-1:00)

Nina Schiefelbein, Design and Media Specialist